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Washington Report:

State Dept's Legal and Intelligence Expert

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WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.

AMONG the errors made by the State Department in ransoming the four American fliers from Hungary was gagging them following their rescue until Samuel E. Klaus had arrived from Washington to take charge.

He was described as a legal and intelligence expert of the State Department but when he got there he didn't do anything but pose with the fliers for photographers.

In describing Klaus now as its legal and intelligence expert the State Department is guilty of a short memory, because it wasn't very long ago that the Department was looking for a way to grease him back to private law practice. That was after he had gotten the Department's official propagandists in an awful jam when they were trying to duck the charges leveled by Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy.

The Wisconsin Senator had put in the Congressional Record what he termed an FBI report on State Department Reds. Acheson's puppets called the Senator a liar, in stating that nothing of the sort had ever been seen around the Department. As it turned out, the report was a compilation made by the Department's own legal and intelligence expert, Klaus, based on FBI summaries and other data. The incident didn't do the Department any good, naturally, and Klaus almost lost his job as a result.

KLAUS, however, has led a charmed life on the Government payroll. He had Fred Busbey, of Illinois, so mad at him a few years ago that the State De-

partment for a while, shuffled Klaus off to the Office of International Trade in the Department of Commerce.

This was the sanctuary of William Remington, now awaiting a second perjury trial, and a number of phonies who were forging shipping permits so they could supply the Soviet Union with American machinery. Klaus never had much to say about these operations.

Later on, Klaus got in a lather when he tried to force an examination of all FBI information on Communism. He apparently wanted to dip in the secret FBI files, although nobody knew just why. He then tried to capture all State Department intelligence work, including jurisdiction over the Central Intelligence Agency and even some FBI operations.

On July 18, 1950, Senator Styles Bridges, of New Hampshire, in a Senate speech, accused a State Department official of blocking the entry into the United States of 1,000 German scientists. All of them, so far as is known, now work for the Russian Government. Bridges didn't name the official involved, but shortly after the speech Klaus ran pantingly to his office trying to find out whom the Senator had in mind.

Klaus is a pal of Max Lowenthal, the mental marvel who advises President Truman on such things as why the FBI should be investigated. He once worked for a law firm that employed ex-Communist Lee Pressman. He visited Russia in the early 30's, although I haven't been able to find out why.

There is nothing visible in his background to qualify him as the official gag, in Vienna, of the U. S. Government.